

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and listings.

1. (Currently amended) A communication apparatus comprising:
 - connecting means for connecting the communication apparatus to a communication network containing an electronic mail exchange device;
 - input means for inputting image data representing an image;
 - transmitting means for transmitting an electronic mail, to which the image data inputted by said input means is attached, via said connecting means;
 - receiving means for receiving an electronic mail for notifying an error via said connecting means;
 - analyzing means for analyzing the electronic mail for notifying the error received by said receiving means;
 - converting means for converting a capacity of the image data, inputted by said input means, into a smaller capacity according to an analysis result obtained by said analyzing means; and
 - control means for automatically carrying out a controlling operation so as to retransmit the electronic mail, to which the image data with the capacity thereof converted by said converting means is attached, by said transmitting means, in response to said receiving means receiving the electronic mail for notifying the error.

2. (Original) A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said converting means converts the capacity of image data specified by the electronic mail analyzed by said analyzing means.

3. (Original) A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said converting means reduces the capacity by lowering a resolution of an image represented by the image data inputted by said input means.

4. (Original) A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said converting means reduces the capacity by reducing a size of an image represented by the image data inputted by said input means.

5. (Original) A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said converting means reduces the capacity per electronic mail by dividing the image data inputted by said input means into a plurality of pieces.

6. (Original) A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said converting means reduces the capacity by raising a compression rate of the image data inputted by said input means.

7. (Original) A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said converting means reduces the capacity by converting the image data which is color image data, inputted by said input means, into black-and-white image data.

8. (Original) A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said converting means reduces the capacity by converting the image data which is multivalued image data, inputted by said input means, into binary image data.

9. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising setting means for setting, for said converting means, one of a plurality of conversion methods to be used, [[:]] and wherein said converting means converts the capacity by the conversion method set by said setting means.

10. (Original) A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said converting means converts the capacity by using a combination of a plurality of converting methods.

11. (Original) A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein: said control means repeats the conversion by said converting means and the retransmission by said transmission means every time said receiving means receives an electronic mail for notifying an error.

12. (Currently Amended) A communication method comprising:

- an inputting step₁ of inputting image data representing an image;
- a transmitting step₁ of transmitting an electronic mail to which the image data inputted ~~[[by]]~~ in said ~~input means~~ inputting step is attached;
- a receiving step₁ of receiving an electronic mail for notifying an error;
- an analyzing step₁ of analyzing the electronic mail for notifying the error received in said receiving step;
- a converting step₁ of converting a capacity of the image data inputted ~~[[by]]~~ in said ~~input means~~ inputting step into a smaller capacity according to an analysis result obtained in said analyzing step; and
- a controlling step₁ of automatically carrying out a controlling operation so as to retransmit the electronic mail₁ to which the image data with the capacity thereof converted in said converting step is attached, by said transmitting step, in response to said receiving step receiving the electronic mail for notifying the error.

13. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to claim 12, wherein said converting step ~~comprises~~ includes converting the capacity of image data specified by the electronic mail analyzed in said analyzing step.

14. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to claim 12,

wherein said converting step ~~comprises~~ includes reducing the capacity by lowering a resolution of an image represented by the image data inputted in said input step.

15. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to claim 12, wherein said converting step ~~comprises~~ includes reducing the capacity by reducing a size of an image represented by the image data inputted in said input step.

16. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to claim 12, wherein said converting step ~~comprises~~ includes reducing the capacity per electronic mail by dividing the image data inputted in said input step into a plurality of pieces.

17. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to claim 12, wherein said converting ~~means comprises~~ step includes reducing the capacity by raising a compression rate of the image data inputted in said input step.

18. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to claim 12, wherein said converting step ~~comprises~~ includes reducing the capacity by converting the image data which is color image data, inputted in said input step, into black-and-white image data.

19. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to claim 12, wherein said converting step ~~comprises~~ includes reducing the capacity by converting the

image data which is multivalued image data, inputted in said input step, into binary image data.

20. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to claim 12, further comprising a setting step₁ of setting₁ for said converting step₁ one of a plurality of conversion methods to be used₁ [[;]] and wherein said converting ~~sep comprises~~ step includes converting the capacity by the conversion method set [[by]] in said setting step.

21. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to claim 12, wherein[[;]] said converting step ~~comprises~~ includes converting the capacity by using a combination of a plurality of converting methods.

22. (Currently Amended) A communication method according to claim 12, wherein[[;]] said controlling step ~~comprises~~ includes repeating the conversion in said converting step and the retransmission in said transmitting step every time an electronic mail for notifying an error is received in said receiving step.

23. (Currently Amended) A program for performing a communication method by a computer, the communication method comprising:

an inputting step₁ of inputting image data representing an image;
a transmitting step₁ of transmitting an electronic mail to which the image data inputted [[by]] in said ~~input means~~ inputting step is attached;

a receiving step₁ of receiving an electronic mail for notifying an error;

an analyzing step₁ of analyzing the electronic mail for notifying the error received ~~[[by]]~~ in said receiving ~~means~~ step;

a converting step₁ of converting a capacity of the image data inputted ~~[[by]]~~ in said ~~input~~ ~~means~~ inputting step into a smaller capacity according to an analysis result obtained in said analyzing step; and

a controlling step₁ of automatically carrying out a controlling operation so as to retransmit the electronic mail to which the image data with the capacity thereof converted in said converting step is attached, by said transmitting step, in response to said receiving step receiving the electronic mail for notifying the error.